LIBRARY

SKEGNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1950

BOSTON:
The Lincolnshire Standard, Ltd.,
12, Wide Bargate,
1951.

SKEGNESS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Skegness Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Sixteenth Annual Report.

Statistics.

Area (in acres)	4,411.788
Number of inhabited houses 1950	3637
Rateable Value, 31st December, 1949	£127,318
Product of a Penny Rate	£507
Population	12,020

Extracts from Vital Statistics during the Year.

	Total	Males	Females
Births ...	250 ...	136 ...	114
Deaths ...	154 ...	85 ...	69
Birth Rate	20.8 ...	Death Rate	12.8

Number of Women dying in consequence of childbirth	from Sepsis ...	Nil
	from other causes	Nil

Deaths of infants under one year of age	3
Infant Mortality Rate	12.0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	25
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
,, ,, Diarrhoæ (under 2 years of age)	Nil
,, ,, Cerebro Spinal Fever	Nil
,, ,, Tuberculosis	6

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year. The figures are:—

	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Dysentery	Nil ...	Nil ...	Nil
Scarlet Fever	4 ...	Nil ...	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil ...	Nil ...	Nil
Erysipelas	2 ...	Nil ...	Nil
Pneumonia	2 ...	Nil ...	Nil
Measles	18 ...	Nil ...	Nil
Cerebro-Spinal-Fever	1 ...	Nil ...	Nil
Malaria	Nil ...	Nil ...	Nil
Poliomyelitis	5 ...	3 ...	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1 ...	Nil ...	Nil
Whooping Cough ...	16 ...	Nil ...	Nil
Meningitis	1 ...	Nil ...	Nil
	50 ...	3 ...	Nil

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

There were no cases notified during the year.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. D. Fraser Menzies, M.B., Ch.B. (St. And.).

Sanitary Inspector: S. James, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., A.M.Inst.P.C.

SKEGNESS INFANT WELFARE.

The Infant Welfare Clinic is held each Friday from 2—4 p.m. Doctor and Health Visitors are in attendance, all other duties being carried out by members of the Voluntary Committee.

National Milk, Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil are dispensed.

Babies are weighed and have medical treatment when necessary, and are immunised against Diphtheria. The average number of mothers attending every week with their babies and small children is 68. Toddlers are now attending the clinic on alternate Mondays and have sunlight treatment.

Immunisation and Vaccination by Clinic Doctor each Friday.

I am indebted to Mrs. D. T. Edwards for this excellent report and for which I tender my grateful thanks. I also wish to thank the nurses and Committee of the Association for their excellent work throughout the year.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Arrangements are made to send infectious cases to the Isolation Hospitals at Boston, Lincoln or Grimsby.

The Regional Hospital Board has arranged for the regular attendance at Skegness and District Hospital for out-patient clinics, of a Physician, Surgeon, Orthopædic Surgeon, Gynecologist, Cadeologist, Paediatrician and Radiologist. An Opthalmologist attends at the Lumley Hotel on 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. There is also a department for Physiotherapy.

Venereal Diseases.

There is a local centre for the treatment of venereal diseases and sessions are held each week on Thursday evenings.

Tuberculosis.

The County Council provide for the treatment of tuberculosis. A clinic for this purpose is established at Skegness, and sessions are held each Tuesday afternoon. An arrangement, whereby cases of suspected tuberculosis can be X-Rayed at Skegness Hospital has proved most convenient and beneficial to the residents of Skegness.

Nursing Homes.

Sandune Nursing Home is providing very good service in the care of maternity cases.

GENERAL HEALTH.

There is nothing outstanding to report as the general health of the town has been most satisfactory.

DAY NURSERY.

The Nursery was open during the summer months and accommodated children from one to five years of age. The nursery is now carried on by Councillor Mrs. E. Barratt in a voluntary capacity and in her very capable hands is very successful. I think Mrs. Barratt's efforts in this direction are to be highly commended.

Scavenging.

The removal and disposal of house and trade refuse and the cleansing of earth closets, privies and cesspools in the area is carried

out by the Council, and is under the direct supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

Salvage work requires constant thought and attention, and excellent results were obtained during the year from this source.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action, or result of action taken in regard to these will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Schools.

The sanitary conditions and water supply at the public elementary schools are good.

The County School Medical Officer regularly inspects the Schools and the children. Any treatment required can be obtained through the medical practitioners in the town and through the various schemes provided by the Education Committee.

Shops Act.

Inspections are made from time to time and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

Housing.

I am pleased to note that your Council is making good progress with the building of new houses. More houses have been erected during the year including bungalows for aged persons. More of this latter type of dwelling appears to be needed.

Report on Housing Acts Inspections.

The number of inspections made and the action taken will be found in the tabulated report.

Water Supply.

A plentiful supply of wholesome water is obtained from the Candlesby and Welton boreholes.

On analysis this water is found to be of excellent quality and purity.

Laboratory Report No. 5703.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

The sample of water marked Butlin House collected on 9.8.50 has been examined, and with the following results:—

Agar plate count, at 20°—22°C, for three days ...	= 2 per ml.
Agar plate count, at 37°C, for two days	= 0 per ml.
Faecal coli	not found in 100 ml.
Probable number of coliform bacilli ...	none per 100 ml.
Enterococci	not found in 100 ml.
Cl. welchii (spores)	not found in 100 ml.

The results show this water to be highly satisfactory for drinking purposes.

(Signed) R. S. RALPH,
M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,
Laboratory Director.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	1	1	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	52	52	67	10	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	3	7	1	—
Total ..	56	56	77	11	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)		—	—		
Overcowding (S.2)		—	—		
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)		—	—		
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)		—	—		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)		—	—		
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient		Nil	Nil		
(b) Unsuitable or defective		9	9		
(c) Not separate for sexes		2	2		2
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)		—	—		
Total ..		11	11		2

Meat and Food.

The slaughterhouses controlled by the Ministry of Food and situate in Richmond Drive are visited by your Council's Sanitary Inspector during hours of slaughter.

The number of visits paid in connection with food inspection will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

Shops, stalls, vehicles and places where food is stored or prepared for sale have been regularly inspected and are, on the whole, clean and well kept.

The adoption of Bye-laws relating to food hygiene should assist materially in the drive for cleaner food.

Milk Supply.

Visits were paid to cowsheds in the district until the time when the powers vested in the local authority were transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture. Six samples of milk were submitted for biological examination and all gave a negative result. Twenty-one samples of milk procured for analysis gave satisfactory results, and one sample was unsatisfactory.

Milk Special Designations Order.

There is one licensed producer of pasteurised milk and one licensed dealer of T.T. milk. License was granted to an establishment to bottle accredited milk.

Ice Cream.

Twenty samples of ice-cream were sent for analysis and all complied with the prescribed test. It is very pleasing to note the considerable improvement which is being made in the production methods of this commodity.

Bakehouses.

These are all of good type and construction and are kept in very good condition. No complaint was necessary against these during the year. There are no underground bakehouses in the area.

Sale of Food and Drugs.

The County Council is the authority for carrying out this Act.

Swimming Pools.

Copy of Analysis:—

BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER REPORT.

Agar plate count, at 20°—22°C, for three days	= 6 per ml.
Agar plate count, at 37°C, for two days	= 2 per ml.
Faecal coli	not found in 100 ml.
Probable number of coliform bacilli	none per 100 ml.
Enterococci	not found in 100 ml.

The results show this water to be safe for bathing purposes.

Factories.

The work carried on is chiefly dressmaking and millinery, joinery, motor and cycle repairs, photography and upholstery.

On the whole these places are well kept. It is only on occasions that it is necessary to take any action with regard to them.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. FRASER MENZIES, M.B., Ch.B. (St. And.),
Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Administration:

Report of work done by Sanitary Inspector for the year 1950.

Total No. of New Houses Erected during the Year ...	67
(I.) By the Local Authority	56
(II.) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(III.) By other bodies or persons	11
1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—	
(I.) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	377
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	744
(2) (a) No. of dwelling-houses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	Nil
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—	
No. of Defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	364

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 36 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :—	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	5
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	4
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	1
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	8
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	8
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(3) No. of dwelling-houses subject to undertakings	Nil
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	Nil

Movable Dwellings, Tents, Vans, etc.—	
No. of site licences	13
No. of individual licences	Nil
No. inspected during year	Sites inspected periodically.
No. of contraventions remedied	7
Bakehouses—	
No. in district	9
†No. of inspections	39
No. of contraventions	5
Defects remedied	5
Control of Milk Supplies—	
No. of distributors on register	4
No. of Producer Retailers	1
No. of Dairies on Register	46
Contraventions remedied	5
No. of milk samples taken : Satisfactory	7
Unsatisfactory ...	7
Ice Cream—	
No. of manufacturers	18
No. of premises registered for sale	117
No. of contraventions	Nil
No. of samples taken : Satisfactory	20
Unsatisfactory	Nil
Slaughter-houses—	
No. on register	Ministry of Food Abbatoir
†No. of inspections	721
Contraventions of by-laws	Nil
Defects remedied	Nil

Unsound Food.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ..	1783	748	590	4742	500
Number inspected	1783	748	590	4742	500
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned	6	16	6	13	10
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	80	107	15	63	25
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	4.7	16.4	3.6	1.6	7.0
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned	14	29	2	Nil	30
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	178	149	11	—	27
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	10.7	23.8	2.2	Nil	11.4

Offensive Trades—

No. of premises in district	Non in district
†No. of Inspections	
Contraventions of by-laws	
Contraventions remedied	

Shops Act, 1950—

Number of shops inspected	51
Contraventions remedied	7

WATER SUPPLY.

Wells—

New sunk	Nil
Closed as polluted	

Public Supply—

*Area supplied	Whole area
Percentage of houses internal supply	100%
communal supply	Nil
Number of samples obtained for analysis	4
(a) from wells	Nil
(b) from public supply	4
Any insufficiency and where	No

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Closets—

No. of houses with privy vaults in district	Nil
No. of houses with pail closets in district	33
No. of pail closets repaired	7
No. of water-closets substituted for dry receptacles	Nil
No. of houses with water-closets in district ...	3604
No. of water-closets repaired	27

Drains—

Drains examined, tested, exposed, &c.	26
,, unstopped, repaired, &c.	71
Waste, pipes, disconnected, repaired, &c.	23
Existing soil pipes, etc., renewed or repaired ..	11

Sewers—

New lengths of sewer laid	—

Tanks, Filter Beds, etc.—

Alterations to sewage disposal works	No
Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works or complaints as to smells	No.

Cesspools—

Cesspools emptied, cleansed, &c.	Weekly
,, abolished	Nil

Disinfection, etc.—

Rooms disinfected	13
(a) ordinary infectious disease	6
(b) tuberculosis	7
Rooms stripped and cleansed	Nil
No. of premises disinfested	11

House Refuse—

No. of houses using dustbins	3637
Is refuse removed by householders or by public scavenger ?	Council
How frequently is refuse removed from each house ?	Weekly and Twice weekly
No. of complaints of non-removal	Practically Non-existent
Method of final disposal	Controlled Tip
Are existing arrangements for refuse removal satisfactory ?	Quite

Nuisances—

Total Number of Nuisances during year	97
(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector	71
(2) Reported to Council, Statutory notice issued	4
Statutory notice not issued	22

Details of Nuisances Abated—

	After Informal intimation	After Statutory Notice
Smoke	7	1
Accumulation of refuse ...	17	—
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	5	—
Foul pigs and other animals ...	11	—
Dampness	35	3
Yards repaved or repaired ...	15	—
Other nuisances	7	—

Supplementary Remarks as to Sanitary requirements of District, and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries, e.g., other food condemned, direct labour or contract scavenging, etc.

Infectious Disease Visits	17
Food Premises Visits	73
Rodent Control Visits	50
Miscellaneous Visits	565